

# The Rip Tide

The e-newsletter of the New Hampshire Coastal Program  
Winter 2009



New Hampshire  
Coastal Program



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## GRANT OPPORTUNITIES

### Coastal and Estuarine Land Conservation Program Request for Proposals

The Coastal Program is currently accepting proposals for the Coastal and Estuarine Land Conservation Program FFY2010 funding cycle. The RFP is intended to provide information to the National



Oceanic Atmospheric Administration on the projects that are available for funding in New Hampshire's coastal watershed for FFY 2010. As a result of this RFP, the Coastal Program will forward to NOAA three projects, which will be ranked in a national

competition. Proposals are due to the Coastal Program by March 13, 2009 at 4 p.m. A public meeting to discuss the proposals and reach consensus on ranking is scheduled for March 27, 2009 at 9 a.m. at the NHDES field office in Portsmouth. [View RFP and application materials.](#)

CELCP, a tremendously competitive national program, aims to protect coastal lands with significant ecological value. Qualifying land protection projects in New Hampshire must be located within the 42 coastal watershed towns and provide a one to one match. In addition, lands designated as priorities for protection in New Hampshire are identified in the draft [New Hampshire CELCP Plan](#).

### Stormwater Utility Feasibility Study Request for Proposals

Watershed Assistance is now accepting proposals for a Stormwater Utility Feasibility Study. Submission deadline is 4 p.m. on March 14, 2009. For questions, please contact Eric Williams, Watershed Assistance section supervisor, at 271-2358, [eric.williams@des.nh.gov](mailto:eric.williams@des.nh.gov), or Barbara Mc-

Millan, watershed outreach coordinator, at 271-7889, [barbara.mcmillan@des.nh.gov](mailto:barbara.mcmillan@des.nh.gov). [See full RFP](#) for more information.



### Community Technical Assistance Program Grant Opportunity

The Piscataqua Region Estuaries Partnership (PREP), formerly called the New Hampshire Estuaries Project, is accepting applications from municipal planning boards and conservation commissions through its Community Technical Assistance Program. Community projects will be initiated in 2009. Applications can be submitted to PREP from March 2, 2009 through November 30, 2009, or as funds remain, and will be evaluated as they are received. [Visit PREP's website](#) for application materials.

## OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Coastal and Estuarine Land Conservation Program Updates

#### New Land Protection Legislation Passes in the Senate

In mid January, the Coastal and Estuarine Land Conservation Program Act was passed in the Senate, and now moves to the House. This is a big step to moving this proposed legislation into law, which would codify and strengthen the CELCP Program. Senator Judd Gregg was a co-author and has been instrumental in supporting CELCP. [Read full press release.](#)

#### FFY09 CELCP Proposals' Status

This winter Congress released its national priority listing of CELCP projects submitted to NOAA for consideration for funding for the federal fiscal year 2009 funding cycle. Last fall, the Coastal Program submitted two projects from New Hampshire: the Moose Mountains Coldrain

Pond in New Durham and Brookfield and the Pawtuckaway River Corridor in the towns of Epping and Raymond. The Pawtuckaway River Corridor ranked 19th and Moose Mountains Coldrain Pond ranked 35th, respectively. Since the fed-



eral budget is in continuing resolution, the Coastal Program will not know how many projects on the national list will receive funding until the end of February. [View the entire national CELCP priority list](#) on our [CELCP website](#) under FFY 2009 Proposal Summaries.

## NEW PUBLICATIONS, WEBSITES AND TOOLS

### Commission Reports Released

#### Tidal Energy Commission's Final Report

The tidal energy commission, established in June 2007 when Governor Lynch signed HB 694 into law, was charged with studying the feasibility of tidal power generation specifically in the Piscataqua River under the Little Bay and General Sullivan Bridges, which are located in Dover and Newington. After a year's worth of scrutiny of the site's unique conditions and the state of the technology, the commission's findings and recommendations have now been released in a final report. A major finding was that tidal power technologies need further study and that the site would be an ideal place to test them. [Find out more in the report.](#) For more information on the Commission, visit the [Tidal Energy Commission's website](#).

#### Great Bay Siltation Commission Interim Report

This winter, the Great Bay Siltation Commission released an [interim report](#) on the status and progress of the last year's work. For more information on the Commission, visit the [Great Bay Siltation Commission's website](#).

#### New Website

The Coastal Program launched a [new website](#) for the Coastal Watershed Invasive Plant Partnership. CWIPP is a group of federal, state, local and nonprofit organizations that have formally agreed to fight the spread of invasive plants in our coastal watershed. Now partnership members and the public can view meeting agendas and minutes, links to resources, and the partnership agreement online.

#### New Issue of Tidelines

The Coastal Program released a new issue of our annual magazine *Tidelines*. This issue's theme is land protection. Find out about the amazing land protection efforts in our coastal watershed. Use this publication to help support land protection efforts in the coastal watershed and beyond. [View issue.](#)

# GRANTEE NEWS

## New Ordinance Developed to Prevent Storm Damage

Watershed Assistance staff Sally Soule and Rivers Coordinator Steve Couture presented a model fluvial erosion hazard (FEH) ordinance to the Raymond Planning Board based on a geomorphic assessment partially funded by the Coastal Program in fall 2008. The recent study and model ordinance takes into consideration the movement of water and soil, or fluvial erosion, a hazard that poses a threat to people and development. The Raymond Planning Board invited Soule and Couture to present the FEH ordinance concept. Although too late for this year's town meeting, Raymond may become the first New Hampshire community to adopt an FEH ordinance in 2010.



Also as part of this project, additional FEH delineations are being developed and will be available in late March for the following subwatersheds of the Exeter River Watershed: Dudley Brook/Little River (Exeter and Brentwood), Upper Exeter River (Sandown, Chester, Raymond) and the Lower Exeter River (Exeter).

Read an article on FEH in the [January/February issue of Environmental News](#).

## Blue Ocean Society Reports Record Breaking numbers at ICC

The 2008 International Coastal Cleanup Day, coordinated by the [Blue Ocean Society for Marine Conservation](#) and funded by the Coastal Program, set a record for number of volunteers. A whopping 1,557 volunteers cleaned 35 sites and removed over 7,000 pounds of debris. The 2008 volunteer numbers blew all other available data from New Hampshire's ICC 25 year history out of the water, with the closest year being 2002, which had 1,363 volunteers. This year's attendance beat

2007 by 500 people. Once again, cigarette butts were the Number 1 item collected with 58,664 counted, followed by food wrappers/containers (4,907) and caps and lids (2,901). Rope and plastic bags were also in the top five items found. [View more results.](#)

## Contemporary Coastal Issues Speaking Series Culminates with Oysters

Dr. Ray Grizzle, professor of zoology at the University of New Hampshire, recently gave a public talk on local oyster populations and the progress of collaborative efforts to restore this species in the Great Bay Estuary. The presentation was part of the [Gundalow Company's](#) contemporary coastal issues speakers series, which the Coastal Program supported through funding from last year's competitive grant round. Find out more about oysters and restoration efforts in Great Bay at [UNH's website](#).

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### About this E-newsletter

*The Rip Tide* is NHCP's quarterly e-newsletter.

All subscribers' e-mail addresses are kept confidential and are not shared by NHCP. Contact Catherine Coletti, editor, at (603) 559-0024 or [catherine.coletti@des.nh.gov](mailto:catherine.coletti@des.nh.gov) with questions or comments.

### About NHCP

NHCP is a federally approved coastal program authorized under the Coastal Zone Management Act and is administered by the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services. NHCP strives to maintain a balance between the use and preservation of coastal resources. Through partnerships, funding and science, NHCP works to improve water quality and decision making in 42 coastal watershed communities, supports maritime uses, and restores coastal wetlands.